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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
(Release No. 34-75560; File No. SR-FINRA-2015-027)

July 30, 2015

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Update Rule Cross-References and Make Non-Substantive Technical Changes to Certain FINRA Rules

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on July 22, 2015, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (“FINRA”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by FINRA. FINRA has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a “non-controversial” rule change under paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 under the Act,<sup>3</sup> which renders the proposal effective upon receipt of this filing by the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

FINRA is proposing to update cross-references and make other non-substantive changes within FINRA rules, primarily as the result of approval of new consolidated FINRA rules.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on FINRA’s website at <http://www.finra.org>, at the principal office of FINRA and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

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<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, FINRA included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. FINRA has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

FINRA is in the process of developing a consolidated rulebook ("Consolidated FINRA Rulebook").<sup>4</sup> That process involves FINRA submitting to the Commission for approval a series of proposed rule changes over time to adopt rules in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook. The phased adoption and implementation of those rules necessitates periodic amendments to update rule cross-references and other non-substantive changes in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook.

The proposed rule change would make such changes, as well as other non-substantive changes unrelated to the adoption of rules in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook.

First, the proposed rule change would update rule cross-references to reflect the adoption of new consolidated rules regarding payments to unregistered persons. On December 30, 2014,

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<sup>4</sup> The current FINRA rulebook consists of (1) FINRA Rules; (2) NASD Rules; and (3) rules incorporated from NYSE ("Incorporated NYSE Rules") (together, the NASD Rules and Incorporated NYSE Rules are referred to as the "Transitional Rulebook"). While the NASD Rules generally apply to all FINRA members, the Incorporated NYSE Rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE ("Dual Members"). The FINRA Rules apply to all FINRA members, unless such rules have a more limited application by their terms. For more information about the rulebook consolidation process, see Information Notice, March 12, 2008 (Rulebook Consolidation Process).

the SEC approved a proposed rule change to adopt new FINRA Rules 0190 (Effective Date of Revocation, Cancellation, Expulsion, Suspension or Resignation) and 2040 (Payments to Unregistered Persons). As part of that proposed rule change, FINRA adopted the requirements of NASD IM-2420-1(a) (Non-members of the Association), as FINRA Rule 0190. FINRA also deleted in their entirety NASD Rule 1060(b), NASD Rule 2410, NASD Rule 2420, NASD IM-2420-1, NASD IM-2420-2, Incorporated NYSE Rule 353, and Incorporated NYSE Rule Interpretations 345(a)(i)/01 through /03.<sup>5</sup> The new rules will be implemented on August 24, 2015. As such, the proposed rule change would update references to new Rule 0190 in FINRA Rule 6630 (Applicability of FINRA Rules to Securities Previously Designated as PORTAL Securities).

Second, the proposed rule change would make technical changes to FINRA Rules 6282.03, 6380A.03, 6380B.03, and 6720(c)(1) (Alternative Trading Systems) to reflect FINRA Manual style convention changes.

Finally, FINRA is proposing to make non-substantive changes to FINRA Rule 9217 (Violations Appropriate for Disposition Under Plan Pursuant to SEA Rule 19d-1(c)(2)) to update cross-references resulting from previous amendments to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB") Rules A-12, A-14, G-3, G-38, and G-40.<sup>6</sup> FINRA also is proposing to update

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<sup>5</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73954 (December 30, 2014), 80 FR 553 (January 6, 2015) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2014-037).

<sup>6</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 52278 (August 17, 2005), 70 FR 49342 (August 23, 2005) (Order Approving File No. SR-MSRB-2005-04) (Deleted MSRB Rule G-38); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 71616 (February 26, 2014), 79 FR 12254 (March 4, 2014) (Order Approving File No. SR-MSRB-2013-09) (Deleted MSRB Rules A-14 and G-40, and incorporated the provisions of these rules into Rule A-12); and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 74384 (February 26, 2015), 80 FR 11706 (March 4, 2015) (Order Approving File No. SR-MSRB-2014-08) (Renumbered MSRB Rule G-3(h) as G-3(i)).

the cross-references in Sections 4 (Fees) and 12 (Application and Annual Fees for Member Firms with Statutorily Disqualified Individuals) of Schedule A to the FINRA By-Laws to reflect the renumbering of the Rule 9640 Series as the 9520 Series pursuant to SR-NASD-97-28.<sup>7</sup>

FINRA has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness. The implementation date for the proposed rule change will be August 24, 2015, to coincide with the implementation date of FINRA Rule 0190.

## 2. Statutory Basis

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,<sup>8</sup> which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules must be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. FINRA believes the proposed rule change will provide greater clarity to members and the public regarding FINRA's rules.

### B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

FINRA does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed rule change brings clarity and consistency to FINRA rules without adding any burden on firms.

### C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

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<sup>7</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 38908 (August 7, 1997), 62 FR 43385 (August 13, 1997) (Order Approving File No. SR-NASD-97-28).

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

### III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>9</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>10</sup>

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-FINRA-2015-027 on the subject line.

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<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Paper comments:

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FINRA-2015-027. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal offices of FINRA. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer

to File Number SR-FINRA-2015-027, and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>11</sup>

Robert W. Errett  
Deputy Secretary

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<sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).